

triumph. This was the most glorious celebration Rome had ever seen. The parades lasted 4 days. "After the prouess of his long war, came CAESAR himself and then his legions, those incomparable veterans, singing ribald songs about their bald-headed general" whom they had followed through such desperate warfare. A long line of wagons carried the rewards. Each legionary received 5,000 denarii (about 1,080 in gold of 1932),

and every centurion 10,000 denarii. Besides this, each veteran was later given a good allotment of land. Every spectator received 100 denarii. After the rewards were bestowed, there was a great public feast for which 22,000 tables were set. In addition, there were plays, a mock naval battle, a huge gladiatorial combat, and a hunt with 400 lions and giraffes as prey.

From the beginning of 48 BC to the spring of 46, Caesar's time and energy had been largely taken by the civil wars. In December 46 BC, he again had to go to

In Spain to put down the last Imperial revolt. He had little time so far to deal with the pressing political, economic, and social problems of Italy and the Empire. His health was no longer good - in fact, he had never had extraordinary physical vigor; and he must have known that he had not very long to live, though he did not suspect assassination. His abnormally active mind had long been occupied in part by the problems of empire to which he now devoted himself.

(7)

mysterious soldiers back to their personal allegiance to him. Warned out by campaigning, his men hoped to be discharged from service after receiving the promised triumph and rewards. Caesar, however, soon had to go to North Africa where a very hard campaign awaited him. At last victorious at THAPSUS, he was able to turn his attention to the problems of his empire.

Ferdinand and his legions had their great

Pompeians gave way. Just as the Caesarians stormed his camp, Pompey fled. The pursuit was furious and by next morning 24,000 had surrendered; the rest had fled or died.

Pompey reached the sea and embarked for Egypt where he thought help could be secured. As he stepped on shore there he was stabbed to death; and when Caesar reached Egypt in pursuit, he was met by a man bearing Pompey's embalmed head. His rival was gone.

In Egypt a struggle for the crown was going on between Cleopatra and her younger brother. Caesar was won over to Cleopatra's side, and determined to make her queen. The population of the great city of Alexandria resented Roman domination, and Caesar was soon besieged in one quarter of the city and put in the greatest danger, the fighting was hard on land and sea, Caesar barely escaping death on one occasion.

However, with help from Asia, he finally won.

Caesar was soon called elsewhere, for Pompey's lieutenants were still active. Antony controlled Italy in Caesar's interest. He went next to Syria and then Asia Minor, where he won a victory over the King of Pontus.

It was just after this that he sent his famous message: Veni, vidi, vici. He restored order at home and won his

(6)

them not to hurl their spears but to hold them for stabbing to repel the cavalry. Caesar's line fell back, but the special cohorts sprang forward, prodding the enemy horses. Caesar's men could not be ridden down and Pompey's cavalry fled. The 8 cohorts now charged and outflanked Pompey's legions which had stood firm until then. Caesar sent in his last reserves and the

could operate on inside lines, and he planned to attack his enemies separately and defeat them one by one. He struck first at Spain and defeated the Pompeian forces there. ~~THE~~ West was now his. However, the control of the empire was to be decided in the East. Caesar had only a dozen warships against a huge fleet under Pompey's orders, and it was midwinter. Nevertheless he crossed the Adriatic with 7 legions on January fifth, and sent his transports back for more. After several months delay he tried to blockade Pompey at DYRRHACHIUM. It seems strange that Pompey, with an army double the size of Caesar's, should allow himself to be blockaded there. However, he finally broke the blockade and Caesar had to withdraw.

What now awaited was a decisive battle. Pompey's associates from the Senate insisted upon it and finally Pompey consented, knowing that it had to be fought sooner or later. Hence Caesar

had his chance at PHARSALUS (in Northern Greece). Pompey had nearly double the numbers that Caesar commanded and greatly superior cavalry but 2 of Pompey's legions had fought in Gaul under Caesar. Pompey planned to have his cavalry defeat Caesar and then strike at the rear of the legions. When Caesar saw the danger, he detached a special reserve of 8 veteran cohorts, telling them that victory depended on them and ordering

(5)

of recruits. Furthermore, Pompey had many capable officers - one of Caesar's ablest lieutenants in the Gallic wars had gone over to his side. Caesar lacked really competent subordinates. Although his own genius was supreme, and his soldiers were brave, experienced, and devotedly loyal to him, he could not be everywhere at once. His less capable lieutenants were very likely to be defeated in his absence.

Caesar saw that speed was essential. He

him that it would follow wherever he might lead. But he did not want to bring his troops into Italy contrary to law unless he was forced to. He offered to give up TRANSALPINE GAUL and most of his legions if he could keep his nearest province until installed as consul at Rome in 48 (if elected). Finally, however, the Senate ruled he must retire at the end of his term. The tribunes vetoed this, whereupon the Senate declared martial law to override their veto, and the tribunes fled to Caesar. Now asserting that the Senate had violated the constitution he crossed the Rubicon<sup>49 BC</sup>, the boundary of his province, and marched southward with only one legion; the rest were far away and, even at top speed, could not reach him for some time.

As Caesar moved southward he made friends by his leniency. When he reached Rome, he seized the government treasury and supplied himself with money. Pompey and his senatorial allies

fled from Italy to Greece where they began to collect a large army. Caesar now controlled Italy, but, except for recently conquered Gaul, the rest of the empire was against him. Pompey had full control of the sea and his agents were even trying to win Gaul. At the time Caesar had the best army, but if he waited too long, Pompey would have the advantage, for his control of the empire would provide ample financial resources and plenty

#### CIVIL WARS 49-45BC

(4)

Hence Caesar wanted to stay in Gaul and run for the Consulship without a personal canvass, for, duly elected and actually Consul he would feel safe. Caesar was still popular at Rome, and he had many friends all over Italy. Furthermore, he had a large army which had been hardened in the Gallic wars and which he knew was so devoted to

had done much to keep them friendly, but she died in 54 BC. Caesar offered to marry Pompey's daughter, but Pompey refused and their estrangement grew. Rome was in a state of unrest. Brawls and riots occurred frequently and were so serious that no Consuls at all were elected in 54 BC nor until the middle of 53 BC and neither praetors nor Consuls were elected for 52 BC. In January <sup>52BC</sup> when Cato was killed, such riots broke out that the Senate appealed to Pompey, making him sole Consul. <sup>52BC</sup> He restored order with his troops. He was now practically dictator, for he ruled Italy and Spain through his lieutenants and was again Censor as well as sole consul; the Senate depended upon him. His vanity was greatly flattered. He hoped to remain in this high position by constitutional means, but he feared Caesar would want a similar or an even higher position when he returned from Gaul. The Senate believed it could manage Pompey, but it feared Caesar, the latter was at a great disadvantage, for

Pompey and the Senate were at Rome and in a position to make laws against him. He kept several tribunes in his party so they could veto hostile moves, but his enemies had the initiative.

Caesar was fairly safe until his pro-consular term expired in March, 49 B.C. If he then returned to Rome as a private citizen without an army, his bitter enemies were likely to attack him - Cato made it clear that he intended to prosecute him for treason.

(3)

they would not face the deadly arrows again. The next day they were led astray by a false guide, and, as a result, crossed and nearly all his troops were slaughtered. Rome had lost a whole army in this terrible disaster. For thirty years the Parthians kept the eagles taken from the defeated legions.

The death of Crassus was likely to break the alliance between Caesar and Pompey, for they were already rivals. Pompey's wife, Julia,

Crossus was fearful that his troops would win victory almost too easily; but this was unlikely, for he got poor recruits for his army and he had no gift for managing them. Crossus had a genius for money-making but none for war, and he was to meet an opponent more skilled in military strategy. The Parthian leader saw the great weakness of his 10,000 horsearchers. They might run out of ammunition - and he provided a special corps of 1,000 Arabian camels to carry a huge reserve supply of arrows.

The first year Crossus pushed into northern Mesopotamia and then returned to Syria where he booted the Jewish temple of its treasures. The following spring he set out eastward into flat country where his forces were at a great disadvantage. For one thing, ample water supplies were lacking. Furthermore, he had 28,000 troops but few horsemen. The Parthian army of about 11,000 apparently retreated, and Crossus followed. When he

reached the right spot (CARRHAE) the enemy turned and struck; before the Romans could form a square, the Parthians were on them. The heavy cavalry drove in the light-armed Roman auxiliaries and then the hail of arrows began. Some used direct fire, others high trajectory and the legions could not ward off all the arrows with their shields. Crassus' son, who had served with Caesar, might have saved the day, but the horsemen rode him down. The Romans now lost confidence and thought only of flight.

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getting a good grip on their horses. These <sup>②</sup> cavalrymen were Parthian aristocrats. The poorer men also fought on horseback, but wore little armor, used bows and arrows, and rode light, fast horses. They were especially skilled in shooting backwards while pretending flight. The Parthians did not place much dependence on infantry. The Romans had met the Parthian military forces in Armenia and had beaten them; hence they esteemed them lightly.

pro consular command in Spain, and the  
CLASSUS one in SYRIA. After his consulship  
Pompey stayed near Rome waiting for something  
to turn up.

Crossus was so impatient to get military  
glory which would match that of Caesar that  
he set off for the East in great haste, determined  
to make war on the PARTIANS and conquer the  
rich valleys of the TIGRIS and EUPHRATES. The  
PARTIANS, who were of SCYTHIAN or Iranian  
origin, had torn that region and Media from  
the weakened SELUCID EMPIRE early on in the  
2nd century BC. Later in that century they had  
turned back a great wave of invaders from  
central Asia. They did little to build up a  
new civilization but took over the Hellenistic  
civilization which they found there. The small cities  
within the Parthian empire kept their local  
autonomy and their civilization much as they  
had earlier.

The Parthian rulers collected heavy toll from  
the oriental trade that used two main roads  
over their territory. A military people, they

developed their own successful methods of fighting on horseback. The richer PARTHIAN soldiers wore heavy protective armor, and their horses were likewise armored. The horses had to be huge to carry the weight of rider and armor. By the time of Cæsars, this cavalry had become very much like the mediaeval knights with their helmets, coats of mail, and metal greaves; they carried long heavy spears like the mediaeval lances. Since they rode without stirrups, they had no thigh armor, for this would have prevented them from

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49 BC

Rome Civil War 49 BC

54 BC Julia died (his daughter)

During the Gallic campaigns <sup>Pompey's wife</sup> Caesar doubtless followed closely the confused political situation at home. The program arranged at LUCCA was carried out. Pompey and Cæsars were duly elected consuls for 55 BC, after considerable rioting in which Caesar's soldiers who had been sent home or left probably played their part. After the Senate refused to act, a bill carried through the assembly granting to Pompey a

Since the length of this month was not determined by any precise rule, the pontiffs were left to exercise their discretion, and they frequently abused this power for political ends. By manipulating the number of days in the intercalary month they could prolong a term of office or hasten an election, with the result that by the time of Julius Caesar the civil year was about 3 months out of phase with the astronomical year so that winter months fell in autumn and spring equinox came in the winter.

<sup>490c</sup>  
Previous to 445 BC  
Spring equinox in winter

Romans tried to bring their civil calendar, which like many ancient calendars was based on the moon, into line with the astronomical year based on the sun by adopting a system involving an additional or intercalary month every second year.

political ambition, which to him was unthinkable.

On Jan 10, 49 BC, Caesar crossed the Rubicon - the boundary between CISALPINE GULF and Italy - under arms, and the die was cast.

The dice were loaded in Caesar's favor. Caesar could count on the loyalty of the PLEBIANS, DEBTORS, VETERANS (even Pompey's), BUSINESSMEN (who had profited from his conquests), NORTHERN ITALIANS, SOUTHERN GALES, SPANIARDS, and his own army. His strongest asset was his own self confidence. He

conquered Italy in 65 days. In Rome he helped himself to the money in the treasury, most of which, the spoils of Gaul, he had won himself. POMPEY & MOST OF THE SENATE fled to Greece. Caesar did not follow for lack of transports, but turned to Spain; he remarked that after disposing of an army without a leader he would take care of a leader without an army. The war in Spain, financed by loans from all ranks, was over in less than 3 months and he was free to turn to Greece.

49 BC

1-10-49BC (Rubicon)

CAESAR

Caesar wished to stand for consulship of 49 BC. IN ABSENTIA, knowing that if he forfeited the immunity that went with his command to come to Rome and campaign in person, the OPTIMATES would pounce. They hated him for his success, his highhandedness, and his treason to his class. According to Caesar, they spurned all attempts at compromise, they wanted him to abandon his army and forego all